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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/567,818	02/08/2006	Olaf Bulter	72108	4431

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EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 12/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/567,818

Applicant(s)

BULTER, OLAF

Examiner

Alexander D. Gilman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 14 and 15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 8-11, 14 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/29/06; 02/08/06</u>   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 14, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiozawa.

With regard to claim 1, Shiozawa (US 6,071,125) discloses (Fig 3b) a block (15) with a brush block body (16) for transmitting currents to a slip ring (7) by means of at least one multiwire sliding element (MWSE) (3), characterized in that a plurality of said MWSE (22) connected electrically in parallel are arranged at said brush block one after another and distributed in an arc in said direction of sliding.

With regard to claim 14, Shiozawa discloses a rotating current transmission unit with one or more said slip rings (7) and one or more said brush blocks (5), which are mounted rotatably in relation to one another.

With regard to claim 15, Shiozawa discloses (a title of the invention) that said current transmission unit has terminals for power current.

Claims 1, 2, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chalita.

With regard to claim 1, Chalita et al (US 5,049,771) discloses (Fig 2, 5-7) a brush block body (40) for transmitting currents to a slip ring (16) by means of at least one multiwire sliding element (MWSE) (36), characterized in that a plurality of said MWSE connected electrically in

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parallel are arranged at said brush block one after another and distributed in an arc in said direction of sliding.

With regard to claim 2, Chalita et al disclose that said brush block has a MWSE carrier (42) with a bent inner wall, at which a plurality of said MWSE (3) are arranged.

With regard to claim 11, Chalita et al disclose (Fig. 2) a plurality of said brush blocks (40) can be arranged next to one another and distributed over the circumference of a slip ring (16).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 8, 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiozawa in view of Wilsdorf.

Shiozawa does not disclose a conductive carrier leaf with said multiwire slip rings arranged thereon.

Wilsdorf (US 4,358,699) disclose a conductive carrier leaf (18) with said multiwire slip rings (20,21) arranged thereon.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the brush with conductive carrier leaf , as taught by Wilsdorf , to optimize the stiffness of the resilient brushes ( Wilsdorf, col. 21, lines 11-34)

With regard to claim 9, Shiozawa discloses that said wires (12, 13) of said multiwire slip ring (2) are bent at the free end.

With regard to claim 10, Shiozawa discloses that said wires of said multiwire slip ring (2) are integrated in a one-layer (12, 13) paintbrush structure.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 3-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

No prior art has been found to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed subject matter. Specifically, none of the prior art of record discloses the combination of the limitations presented including the layers being arranged in an overlapping, scale-like structure forming the enveloping curve that is concentric with the axis of the slip ring with the ends of the MWSE (claim 3).

the plurality of the stepped incisions being arranged in an arc on the circumferential side and at which the MWSE are arranged (claims 6, 7).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D. Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

11/29/06

*Alex Gilman*  
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**ALEXANDER GILMAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**